

Brownfields 2004 Grant Fact Sheet

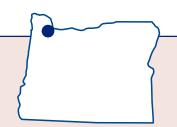
Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc., Portland, OR

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. The job training grants provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to prepare them for employment in the assessment and cleanup of brownfield sites. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc. (OTI) was selected to receive a job training grant. OTI is a community-based nonprofit organization located within Portland's Enterprise Community. OTI will target residents of Portland's North, Northeast (N/NE) community, most of which is within a federally designated Enterprise Community. Forty-one percent of N/NE community residents are minorities, which is the highest concentration of minorities in the State of Oregon. The community suffers from a 17% poverty rate. North and Northeast Portland contain 113 identified brownfields.



Job Training Grant

\$196,440

EPA has selected Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc. for a job training grant. OTI plans to train 60 students with the EPA grant, achieve a 70% graduation rate, achieve a 57% placement rate, and track students for at least two years. Three 7-week, 184-hour training cycles will be offered at nearby training sites, including two located within the Enterprise Community. The curriculum includes an introduction to brownfields, 40-hour HAZWOPER certification, confined space entry, OSHA health and safety, and hazardous waste worker. OTI will recruit residents from Portland's North, Northeast community. At least half of the recruits will be people of color and half will be female. The Northwest Environmental Business Council will assist with placement of graduates in environmental jobs.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 10 Brownfields Team 206-553-2100

www.epa.gov/r10earth, click on "Superfund", scroll down and click on "Brownfields"

Grant Recipient: Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc. 503-335-8200 x22

The demand for skilled hazardous waste workers is expected to be high because several large brownfields redevelopment projects are beginning. These include redevelopment of the North Macadam district, demolition of a Reynolds Aluminum plant, revitalization of Portland's waterfront, the HOPE VI development of 900 residential units, and redevelopment projects related to a new public light rail line in Portland's largest urban renewal area.